



COMMONWEALTH *Comments*

MAY/JUNE 2023

An electronic newsletter for
residents of The Commonwealth:
Bridgewater,
Commonwealth Estates,
Commonwealth Park,
Oxford, Sutton Forest,
Sutton Park and
Sweetwater XII

Happy Mother's Day

Happy Father's Day

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**Underwritten by
The Commonwealth
Civic Association**

Board Meetings

Board Meetings are held at the Clubhouse at 6 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month.

For more information, contact **Heather at** HeatherE@crest-management.com or 281-945-4630.

Visit the **Crest Management website for:**
Exterior Modification Requests, Contacts, to Access Account information, pool tags, meeting dates, etc.

www.crest-management.com

The Commonwealth Board of Directors

President
Jim Levermann

Vice President
David Bristow

Treasurer
John Frenzel

Secretary
Jennifer Vance

Member At Large
Sarah McCoy

To send an email to any board member, click the envelope below.



Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Modifications and Deed Restrictions Committee meets at the Clubhouse at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month.

For more information, contact ronalddt@crest-management.com 281-945-4663

Our Landscape Committee meets on an as needed basis. Contact Crest Management for the next meeting time and date.

First Colony LID #2 meets the FIRST Tuesday of each month at the Commonwealth Clubhouse starting at noon.
www.fclid2.com
For more information, call Ron at 281-265-0137.

Board Member Liaisons

Clubhouse, Pool and Swim Team
– Jennifer Vance

Communications: (newsletter, website, eblasts and marquee) – Sarah McCoy

Community Events and Clubs – Jennifer Vance & Sarah McCoy

Enhancement Committee – John Frenzel

Landscape (including electrical, fountains and sprinklers) – Jim Levermann

Modifications Committee – Dave Bristow

Playgrounds – Jim Levermann

Tennis Courts (tennis leagues & tennis court reservation system)- Jim Levermann

To reach a Board Member, click on the envelope.



CREST MANAGEMENT Company, Contact Information

P. O. Box 219320, Houston, TX. 77218

Heather Esteban,
Property Manager
281-945-4630

(After Hours Emergency
713-935-7331)

[HeatherE@](mailto:HeatherE@crest-management.com)

crest-management.com

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Ronald
Assistant Manager
281-945-4663

ronalddt@crest-management.com

Deed restriction and architectural matters; Clubhouse Scheduler/ Tennis Reservations

Tammy
Account Representative
281-945-4658

TammyA@Crest-Management.com

For accounting matters such as account information, account balances and payment information

Activity Directory

We love options!

To learn about working with the Association to start a group; anything from a book club to a bridge group, to a cooking class, contact

Jennifer Vance or Sarah McCoy and let them know of your interest.

The Association will help publicize your group and attempt to help you grow.

The Commonwealth has a Social Committee

To get involved with helping to schedule and organize events, please contact either Jennifer Vance or Sarah McCoy

Yoga & Guided Meditation

zestandzen1@gmail.com

To find out where and when, contact Varsha.

She hopes to restart classes AT the Clubhouse in the near future!

Reach Jennifer or Sarah by visiting [www.commonwealthcivic.com/contact us](http://www.commonwealthcivic.com/contact-us).

To be best informed, please sign up for both the Email Alert Distribution
AND the Crest Management Email List.

Commonwealth Email Alert Sign Up:

Shoot an email to
news@commonwealthcivic.com
Include your name and address.

**Please encourage your Commonwealth friends and neighbors to sign up for our Commonwealth Email Alerts.
That is the only way to receive this newsletter.**

**The email alert is the way this Association shares emergency weather information with residents.
We do not want anyone to miss out on important warnings.**

For those interested, we also have a Facebook Page:
The Commonwealth HOA
where we post plenty of items of interest.

Crest Management also offers an email opt-in.

Their email allows you to receive
OFFICIAL BUSINESS communications from them via email.

Signing up will save the Association printing and postage costs which helps keep annual dues down:

- ◇ Electronic HOA statements can come straight to your inbox
- ◇ Notifications and Violation Letters will arrive quicker

Crest Management Email List Sign Up:

- 1. Login at www.crest-management.com and click on the user icon by your name.**
- 2. Select User Settings**
- 3. Check the box next to Email Opt-in.**
- 4. Click Update Email Choices**

Address any concerns to Heather at
heathere@crest-management.com.



REMINDER:

The HOA Board Election will take place at the Annual Meeting, being held Tuesday, May 16th at **7 P.M.** in **The Commonwealth Clubhouse**

There are five names on the ballot:

Rerunning are incumbents:

Jim Levermann and David Bristow

Additionally: Melissa Harrington, Kellie Rich and Zack Schofield are running for the board.

Each candidate will introduce himself/herself before voting takes place.

If you will not attend the meeting, please return your proxy (which homeowners will receive in the mail).

CW Pool Tags

Pool tags will be issued to any homeowner that is in good standing with the Association.

To obtain pool tags, go to www.crest-management.com and click request a pool tag/access device on the home page.

Pool tags will be mailed to residents upon receipt and verification of the request form.

There will be a \$20 expedite fee to pick up pool tags in person at Crest Management's office.

Pool tags will be checked by management personnel when entering the pool facility. If a tag is not in the resident's possession or cannot be verified, residents and/or others may be asked to leave the facilities. Only residents with a valid pool tag will be allowed into the pool.

Go Piranhas!



Please visit our website www.cwp.swimtopia.com for Swim Team registration, meet details, and more.

Please text

Jean Konrady, Team President, jmkonrady@gmail.com or call her at **832.535.9887** if you have any questions.

REMINDER

If you are planning improvements/renovations to the outside of your home, please do not forget to submit your MDR application BEFORE beginning the work. Unapproved changes can be costly to the homeowner.

For timely approval, applications should be in the office of Crest Management on or before the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Questions? Reach out to Crest at 281-579-0761.



More

Trash Talk

We have received complaints from residents regarding trash pickup in the community.

If your trash is **NOT** picked up as calendared, please call Republic and let them know. If you email, copy the HOA.

As a reminder, Republic will **NOT** pick up your green waste unless it is in a clear bag. This is **NOT** an HOA rule, Republic has defined the rules of engagement!

Green Waste

Green waste pick up service is provided once a week and is recycled into mulch.

Green waste includes:

- Grass clippings
- Leaves
- Brush
- Tree limbs
- Christmas trees (ornaments and lights removed)
- Organic material produced in your yard or garden
- Does not include food waste or treated wood.

Program Guidelines

- Set your green waste out by 7 a.m. on your collection day but no earlier than 6 p.m. the evening before. No more than 10 cubic yards will be collected.
- Loose materials such as grass clippings and leaves should be placed in a reusable container or in bags and tied. **Clear or translucent bags are required.** Compostable bags are not required.
- If a reusable container is used, it needs to be removed from the curb no later than 8 a.m. on the morning following the day of collection.
- Brush and tree limbs must be less than 4 inches in diameter and less than 4 feet in length; or between 4 and 6 inches and less than 2 feet in length.
- Brush and tree limbs must be stacked in small piles (3 feet high and 3 feet wide). Bundling of tree limbs is not required, but recommended.
- Green waste should be set out at the curb at least four feet from other objects.
- Do not place green waste in your city issued garbage or recycle cart.
- If you have a lawn care professional tending your yard, please request that they service your yard the day prior to your collection day.

Guidelines for Landscapers

Landscapers are asked to follow specific guidelines as it relates to their work. See the Landscaper Green Waste Guidelines Brochure for additional information for landscapers.

Bulky Waste

Bulky waste service is provided on a **flexible on-call basis**. The service allows residents to schedule 12 bulky waste collections per year by contacting:

Republic Services Customer Service at
713-726-7307 or via email at
sugarland@republicservices.com.

- The City offers 3 additional bulky waste collections following the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holidays at no additional cost.
 - Additional bulky waste collections are available for a fee.
 - Fees must be paid prior to scheduling the service.
- Guidelines
- Set bulky items out by 7 a.m. on collection day but no earlier than 6 p.m. the evening before.
 - Residents may place up to five cubic yards of bulky waste out for collection on their bulky waste service day.
 - Bulky items should be set out at the curb at least four feet from other objects.
 - Do not place items in garbage carts for bulky waste collection. Items should be placed directly at the curb.

Landfill Drop-offs

Residents also have access to free landfill drop-offs at **Blue Ridge Landfill - 2200 FM 521 Road, Fresno, Texas.**

The landfill accepts household solid waste items from 4 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 5:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Saturday.

- Residents are allowed one free visit a month to dispose of up to 3 cubic yards
- Visitors are required to provide a valid driver's license and utility bill upon entry
- All visitors will be required to wear a hard hat and safety vest .

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Garbage & Recycling Guidelines

Automated garbage service is provided twice a week.
Recycling service is provided once a week.

Standard garbage service utilizes a 95-gallon grey cart and recycling utilizes a 65-gallon green cart.

YOU HAVE A SERVICE DAY, NOT A SERVICE TIME.

On your collection day, set your carts out by 7 a.m., but no earlier than 6 p.m. the evening before.

When taking out your garbage and recycling carts, remember:

- Ensure all materials fit in the cart. Only items placed inside the cart will be collected.
 - Always keep the lid shut.
 - Carts should be placed at the base of the curb (where curbs exist) with the cart wheels against the curb.
 - Cart handles should be facing away from the street. Lids should open to the street.
 - Carts should be placed at least three feet apart to ensure the collection truck can service both carts.
- After your collection takes place:
- Return your carts to your property no later than 8 a.m. on the morning following the day of collection.
 - Carts must be stored on your property, in compliance with deed restrictions. Do not store your cart in the alley or on the street.
 - The cart remains the property of the City of Sugar Land. It is yours to use while participating in the program. If you move, leave the cart at the residence.

RECYCLING TIPS

- Please follow guidelines on items that are allowed in the cart and only recycle acceptable materials.
- All recyclable materials may be mixed together inside the cart.

- Plastic bags are not allowed in the recycling carts.
- Place loose materials in your cart.
- Protect recyclables from inclement weather by keeping the lid closed.
- Ensure that you flatten and cut cardboard to fit in your cart. Make sure cardboard does not get jammed in your cart prohibiting it from being emptied.
- Maximize space in your cart by crushing plastic bottles and aluminum cans, and cutting boxes down.
- Ensure that all your cans and bottles are empty before recycling them to avoid contamination of other materials.

Textile Recycling**Donate First, Recycle Second**

This program will target the textiles going into landfills, not items being donated to charities, churches, non-profits and other organizations. The City encourages residents to donate items to a local charitable organization.

What can be recycled?

- Bedding
- Clothing
- Coats & Jackets
- Curtains/Draperies
- Fashion accessories
- Halloween Costumes
- Handbags & Purses
- Hats & Gloves
- Linens
- Pet Beds & Clothing
- Pillows
- Shoes, Sandals & Slippers
- Sleeping Bags
- Stuffed Animals

Ready to schedule a pickup?

- Complete the online textile recycling request form
- Call Green City Recycler at 832.989.2745

Preparing for a pickup

- Textiles must be placed in a customer-owned container (bag or box).
- Set your textiles out on your front porch by 7 a.m. on your collection day, but no earlier than 6 p.m. the evening before.
- Do not place textiles in your city issued recycle cart.



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Commonwealth Email Distribution List

The Commonwealth is very fortunate to have an HOA Board that believes in keeping residents as informed as possible. A little research will reassure you that your Civic Association has been very successful at keeping home values up and attracting new residents in a timely fashion.

We keep our residents aware of meetings that impact life here, not only in The Commonwealth, but also in the City of Sugar Land and in Fort Bend County. We do our best not to overwhelm your in-box, but we do give you a heads up regarding important local issues and opportunities to meet and mix with decision-makers that impact your quality of life. Our information always comes from the source. Don't miss this opportunity to keep informed!

NOTIFY ME

Fort Bend County also has an alert system. Check out the County website to see all it has to offer.

The City of Sugar Land's email notification service is called "**Notify Me**". You can easily sign up for various topic-based notifications and receive them directly to your inbox. These notifications are free of advertising, and subscription information is not made available to third parties. Those who sign up for the information service may unsubscribe at any time.

**Click on the icon
below to see the
City of Sugar Land's
Sign Up Form**



**The Commonwealth's partnership with the
HARVEST GREEN VILLAGE FARM VEGGIE SHARE**
has proven to be a GREAT success thus far.

If you are interested in joining the Co-op, email
news@commonwealthcivic.com
and we will put you in touch with the organizers.

**At this time, the co-op will exist through the spring
and, if there is enough interest,
consideration will be given to a Fall Co-op.**

**Call Katie at Crest Management -
281.945.4663
if you have any questions or need help
downloading a
Modifications Application
from the website.**



**Commonwealth Pools are available
to residents in good standing with
the Association for Pool Parties.
Contact American Pool for
rental rates and availability.**

If you would like to advertise your business in our bi-monthly (electronic) newsletter, 6 issues annually, please send an email to news@commonwealthcivic.com and we will share the rate information. Ads range from business card sized to half page.

We now offer Classy Ads (**for residents only**) which are merely a listing of your business and a link to your business web page.

Sugar Land & Fort Bend County News

WWW.SUGARLANDTX.GOV

Incorporated in 1959

Mayor of Sugar Land:
Joe Zimmerman

City Councilmember for District 4 (Commonwealth):
Carol McCutcheon

At-Large Sugar Land Councilmembers:
William Ferguson
Jennifer Lane

Water Leaks

From the City of Sugar Land:

An unusually high water bill could be the result of a leak somewhere on your property. If you received a high water bill due to a leak and have fixed the leak, you might qualify for an adjustment on a future bill.

- ❑ Leak adjustments are limited to one - per rolling twelve-month period and per customer.
- ❑ If you qualify, up to two consecutive billing periods affected by the leak may receive an adjustment.
- ❑ It may take up to two billing cycles before the adjustment will be applied as a credit to the utility account.
- ❑ The adjustment will be calculated using the previous twelve (12) month's bills (excluding high bills due to the leak).
- ❑ If the high water bill occurs during the calculation of winter quarter average, your winter average will be recalculated and your next bill adjusted accordingly.
- ❑ A maximum adjustment of \$2,500 will be applied per qualified customer.

Learn more (Types of leaks that might qualify and those which may not and how to request an adjustment, visit the City's website:

[Click Here](#)



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General Election Scheduled for May 6th

There will be NO City of Sugar Land Council elections on the ballot.

Residents of The Commonwealth will, however, be able to vote in the Fort Bend ISD Trustee and Bond Elections! There are three positions on the ballot this May.

Commonwealth voters are asked to vote on three Trustee positions.

Positions 1, 4 & 5 are on the ballot:
(These are non-partisan positions!)
Vote for one in each position.

Pos. 1

Angie Hanan (I)
Oscar Saenz

Pos. 4

Shirley Rose (I)
Cheryl Buford

Pos. 5

Denetta Williams (I)
Rolly U. DeMeza
Allison Drew
Angel Hicks
Sonya Jones

FBISD Bond Referendum

Fort Bend ISD voters will get to decide on the largest bond in the district's history this May.

Fort Bend ISD's board of trustees voted to call an election for a nearly \$1.26 billion bond.

The \$1.18 billion **Proposition A** encompasses construction, security and transportation upgrades, along with a \$19.2 million transportation facility. **Proposition B** would cover nearly \$52.5 million for technology updates, and the \$22.9 million **Proposition C** would fund a new district natatorium.

The bond election will be held during the 2023 general election on May 6.

We will share additional information by way of our Email Distribution, closer to the election.

Please do your research and make a plan to **VOTE!**

Fort Bend Transit Mobile Ticketing Is Now Available

Fort Bend Transit (FBT) is excited to announce the launch of its mobile ticketing option in collaboration with Token Transit. Mobile tickets, known as “passes”, are available through the Token Transit app, which can be downloaded for free.

Mobile passes are available in Token Transit’s digital app that can be downloaded from Apple’s App Store, Google Play, or Token Transit’s website at www.tokentransit.com.

Individual passes and bulk passes, similar to physical ticket books, are offered for all current Commuter Park and Ride routes and for the Demand Response service. The cost for mobile passes remains the same as the corresponding physical ticket option. Fare information can be found on FBTs Fares webpage at www.FBCTransit.org.

The implementation of mobile ticketing is a continuation of FBTs efforts in providing convenient, affordable, reliable and safe transportation. The Token Transit app’s high download and usage rate within the first few hours of its launch demonstrates FBTs ability to listen to its riders while simultaneously responding effectively to their requests.

FBT offers two public transit services: Commuter Park and Ride and Demand Response.

There are three Commuter Park and Ride lot locations:

- ◆ Fort Bend County Fairgrounds in Rosenberg
- ◆ University of Houston – Sugar Land
- ◆ First Colony AMC Theatre

Commuter service includes morning and evening schedules. Commuter Service operates during peak hours Monday through Friday, excluding County acknowledged holidays, with routes starting as early as 4:30 am and ending as late as 9:00 PM.

Current operating schedules and stop locations can be viewed on FBTs Services webpage at:

www.FBCTransit.org.

FBTs Demand Response service is a curb-to-curb, shared ride service for the citizens of Fort Bend County. The scheduled ride transportation service provides trips within Fort Bend County. Information on booking a trip can be found on FBTs Services webpage at www.FBCTransit.org.

About Fort Bend Transit

In 2005, the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court approved the creation of the Fort Bend County Public Transportation Department (FBCPTD) to serve the general public in Fort Bend County. The purpose of FBCPTD is to provide seamless service between urban and rural communities; access rural transit funding and increase services to residents in Fort Bend County without increasing a financial burden to the taxpayers. As of June 14, 2021, FBCPTD is known as Fort Bend Transit, or FBT. FBT’s mission is to provide safe and efficient public transportation services while maintaining service quality and customer satisfaction.

**Commonwealth Comments is the official newsletter/communication of
The Commonwealth Civic Association**

Commonwealth Comments is published bi-monthly.

If you have content suggestions, please contact: news@commonwealthcivic.com

The Board's Communications Liaison is *Sarah McCoy*

Sarah can be reached using the form on our Contact page on www.commonwealthcivic.com

**Layout & Design of the Newsletter/Email Alerts/Facebook
by the write idea: news@commonwealthcivic.com**

**The
Commonwealth
Civic Association**

NOTES and REMINDERS

Have something to celebrate?

Our beautifully redecorated Clubhouse is available for rent by residents in good standing with The Commonwealth Homeowners Association.

If you are interested in scheduling a small gathering, please contact Crest Management.

281-579-0761

Be sure to check out The Commonwealth website where you will find documents, forms, a link to pay your dues, newsletters, local information and more!

Visit:
commonwealthcivic.com

The City of Sugar Land regulations require that your dog be leashed, at all times while in front of your home, or walking the neighborhood.

Your dog may not actually BE a threat to others, however, perception is reality!

AND -- we continue to ask that you pick up after your dog. We have dogwaste disposal stations throughout the community, please use them.

To get on our Email Alert list please shoot an email to: news@commonwealthcivic.com stating your name, email address and physical address.

We do NOT share your email addresses with ANYONE except Crest Management!

An Email Alert is sent out each time a new edition of the newsletter is posted.

REMINDER --

Trash cans and recycling bins may not be at the curb prior to 5 p.m. on the day before pick up.

This also applies to lawn debris. If your landscape company habitually leaves grass and tree cuttings in front of your home each week, ask them to start taking it with them.

They should be happy to accommodate you. The HOA will pursue this offense - it does frustrate your neighbors.

Useful Phone Numbers

Police (Non-Emergency)	281-275-2020
Animal Control	281-275-2596
Fire Department	281-491-0852
Water & Streets	281-275-2750
Solid Waste Collection	713-726-7307
Public Works	281-275-2450
Street Lights (Centerpoint)	713-207-2222
<i>when calling about street lights, relay pole #.</i>	
CITY OF SUGAR LAND	3-1-1
POLICE & FIRE EMERGENCY	9-1-1

Crest Management 281-579-0761

Pool Rentals: American Pools 281-916-0020
americanpool.com/locations/houston-pool-services

Graphic Credits: Pixabay & Dreamstime

Classy Ads are businesses owned by Commonwealth residents

The Commonwealth Civic Association does not investigate, qualify, or certify this newsletter's advertisers. The business of each advertiser is independent of the Association.

Commonwealth Pool Schedule and Hours of Operation

Knightsbridge

Through MAY 26 (WEEKENDS ONLY-
Saturday/Sunday)

Saturday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Briarwood

MAY 26th – MAY 31st

Friday 5/26 1 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Sat-Sun, 5/27-5/28 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Mon, 5/29 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Tues, 5/30 CLOSED
Wed, 5/31 1 p.m. – 9 p.m.

POOL OPENS FOR DAILY USE ON May 26th

MAY 26th – AUGUST 6th

Monday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Tuesday CLOSED
Wednesday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
(Tuesday) July 4th 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
but will be closed on Wed, July 5th for cleaning!

AUGUST 7th – OCTOBER 1st
(Weekends only)

Saturday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Labor Day 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

JUNE 1ST - AUGUST 6th

Monday CLOSED
Tuesday – Friday 1 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday 12 p.m.- 9 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.

AUGUST 7th - SEPTEMBER 4th
(Weekends only)

Saturday 12 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Labor Day 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

**The pool schedule and hours are subject to change based on staffing AND the FBISD school calendar.
If you have any questions regarding obtaining pool tags you can contact Ronald with Crest Management at
ronalddt@crest-management.com or 281-945-4663.**

Briarwood Splash Pad News!

The splash pad located next to the Briarwood pool has been recently gated to separate it from the pool so that Commonwealth residents can use the splash pad outside of the pool season. A door was also added on the side of the pool building to allow access to the restroom for families at the park or splash pad. **Both the splash pad and exterior pool restroom can be accessed by requesting a splash pad access card.**

PLEASE NOTE:

- Access to the restroom during pool hours will be through the main pool entry gate.
- Access to the exterior restroom when the pool is closed can be obtained with this access card. The restroom will be accessible from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m.
- The splash pad will be open each year from **March 1st- October 31st** from 8 a.m. until dusk.

- The posted rules at the splash pad must be followed.
- If the restrooms need cleaning or attention, please contact Ronald with Crest Management (contact info below).

Please be sure to read our blurb on page 6 of this newsletter regarding obtaining pool tags!

**If you have any questions regarding obtaining an access card or pool tags, you can contact Ronald with Crest Management at:
ronalddt@crest-management.com or
281-945-4663.**

Pool Tags are required!

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Happy Mothers Day


**HAPPY
FATHER'S
DAY**